## DATE RECEIVED





## LAW DEPARTMENT

CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY

LDD / ALL

Transmittal Number: 11359972 Date Processed: 07/08/2013

## **Notice of Service of Process**

**Primary Contact:** 

Ms. Garnet Chapin Whirlpool Corporation 211 Hilltop Road

MD 2114

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Entity:

Whirlpool Corporation

Entity ID Number 2580391

**Entity Served:** 

Whirlpool Corporation

Title of Action:

Irma L. Turbe vs. Whirlpool Corporation

Document(s) Type:

Summons/Complaint

Nature of Action:

Discrimination

Court/Agency:

Tulsa County District Court, Oklahoma

Case/Reference No:

CJ-2013-02655

Jurisdiction Served:

Oklahoma

Date Served on CSC:

07/08/2013

Answer or Appearance Due:

20 Days

Originally Served On:

CSC

How Served:

Certified Mail

Sender Information:

Daniel E. Smolen

918-585-2667

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## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IRMA L. TURBE,		)					
Plaintiff,	C	]-	20	3 =	02	6	55
VS.		) )	Case No				·. •
WHIRLPOOL CORPO A Foreign For Profit Bu		)	Attorne Jury Tri				
Defendar	nt.	)					

### **ORIGINAL SUMMONS**

## SERVE BY U.S. CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Whirpool Corporation c/o Corporation Service Company 115 SE 89th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73139

To the above-named Defendant(s)

You have been sued by the above named plaintiff(s), and you are directed to file a written answer to the attached petition and order in the court at the above address within twenty (20) days after service of this summons upon you exclusive of the day of service. Within the same time, a copy of your answer must be delivered or mailed to the attorney for the plaintiff. Unless you answer the petition within the time stated judgment will be rendered against you with costs of the action.

	Issued this 4	day of	, 2013	
		By	County Court Clerk	
(Seal)	This summons and o		Deputy Court Clerk	
			(Signature of person se	rving summons)

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER
CONNECTED WITH THIS SUIT OR YOUR ANSWER. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE
CONSULTED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT AN ANSWER MAY BE FILED WITHIN THE

trace of the state of the state

TIME LIMIT STATED IN THIS SUMMONS.

Return ORIGINAL for filing.

PERSONAL SERVICE I certify that I received the foregoing Summons the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2013, and that I delivered a copy of said Summons with a copy of the Petition to the following named defendant personally in \_\_\_\_\_ County, \_\_\_\_\_ at the address and on the date set forth opposite each name, to-wit: Name of Defendant Address Date of Service USUAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE I certify that I received the foregoing Summons on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, and that on \_\_\_\_\_, I served \_\_\_\_\_\_ by leaving a copy of said summons with a copy of the attached Petition at \_\_\_\_\_\_ which is his/her dwelling house or usual place of abode, with , a person then residing therein, who is fifteen (15) years of age or older. NOT FOUND Received this Summons this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2013. I certify that the following persons of the defendant within named not found in said County: **FEES** Fee for service \$\_\_\_\_\_\_, Mileage \$\_\_\_\_\_\_, Total \$ Total \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2013. By: Sheriff of County, **AFFIDAVIT** , the undersigned, under oath, do say that I served this Summons and made the return thereon, according to law that I am duly authorized to make this affidavit so help me God. Subscribed to and sworn to before me this day of , 2013. My Commission Expires: Notary Public Seal CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL I certify that I mailed copies of the foregoing summons with a copy of the Petition to the

following named defendant at the address shown by certified mail, addressee only, return receipt requested, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, and receipt thereof on the dates shown:

Defendant

Address Where Served

Date

Receipted

Signature of person mailing summons

DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TULSA COUNTY

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

DISTRICT COURT

JUN - 4 2013

IRMA L. TURBE,

Plaintiff,

Plaintiff,

Vs.

Attorney Lien Claimed

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION,

A Foreign For Profit Business Corporation,

Defendant.

Defendant.

### **PETITION**

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Irma L. Turbe, through her attorneys of record, Daniel E. Smolen, Donald E. Smolen, Lauren G. Lambright and Jack Beesley of Smolen, Smolen & Roytman, Pllc, and bring this action against the Defendant, Whirlpool Corporation, for violations of her constitutionally and statutorily protected rights arising out of her employment with said Defendant.

#### PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- Plaintiff is a citizen of the United States of America and resident of Tulsa County,
   Oklahoma.
- 2. Defendant Whirlpool Corporation is a foreign for profit business corporation doing business in Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma and employing over fifteen employees.
- 3. The is an action for damages and to secure protection of and to redress deprivation of rights secured by Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., hereafter "ADA," and the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Act, Okla. Stat. tit. 85, § 341.

- 4. Plaintiff, resident of Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma, filed a Charge of Discrimination against the Defendant with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). A Notice of Right to Sue was received by the Plaintiff, and the Original Petition was filed within ninety days (90) of the receipt of the Notice of Right to Sue. As such, Plaintiff has complied fully with all prerequisites in this Court under the ADA.
- 5. Compensatory damages are sought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-5(g), Okla. Stat. tit. 85 § 341 and 42 U.S.C. §12101.
- 6. Costs and attorney's fees may be awarded pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 2000e 5(g).
- 7. Punitive damages are sought pursuant to Okla. Stat. tit. 85, § 341.
- 8. Jurisdiction is proper and this action lies properly in Tulsa County as the unlawful employment practices complained of herein occurred within Tulsa County and because the Defendant conducts regular business in Tulsa County.

### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 9. Plaintiff Turbe incorporates as if realleged Paragraphs 1-8.
- 10. Plaintiff began her employment with Defendant in September 2006 as a Technician.
- During her employment, the Plaintiff suffered work related injuries to her hands that required surgery. The Plaintiff filed a worker's compensation claim as a result of this work-related injury, undergoing medical treatment and surgery. The Plaintiff was left with permanent injuries to her hands that caused severe swelling and pain. These conditions are disabilities that substantially limit one or more of Plaintiff's major life activities. The disabilities caused pain to Plaintiff and limited the use of her hands in

many daily chores. However, Plaintiff was, at all relevant times, able to perform the essential functions of her position.

- 12. Once the Plaintiff returned from surgery, she was assigned to work in the finishing department, a department where she had not been employed previously.
- 13. This position increased the strain and pressure on her hands and was much more difficult for the Plaintiff to perform than her previous position. The Plaintiff reported the pain and swelling to Defendant numerous times as well as Medcore. Despite the difficulty, Plaintiff performed the duties of the position and was never told she was failing to perform the job duties adequately until August 2012, Jerry Packard informed the Plaintiff that due to "underproduction" on her part, she was being moved to Line 1.
- 14. The Plaintiff was supposed to have a two-week evaluation period once she moved to Line 1. This Line was extremely fast and more difficult that the Plaintiff's initial job position with Defendant. The Plaintiff was constantly yelled at and intimidated by two of the other males working on the line, Brian Meader, the supervisor over the Line, and Larry, the Team Leader. She received very little training and was not given a chance to learn the Line.
- 15. The Plaintiff was never issued any formal corrective action pursuant to Defendant's policy to indicate that her performance was subpar. However, she was terminated for this reason. Defendant failed to follow its progressive discipline policy with respect to the Plaintiff.
- 16. Plaintiff repeatedly reported the pain and swelling in her hands and requested accommodations in order to alleviate these conditions. Accommodations were never provided and instead, the Plaintiff was continually placed in the most difficult and

demanding positions with little to no training in an attempt to force her to resign. When she did not resign, Defendant terminated her employment on August 29, 2012.

17. Defendant discharged Plaintiff based on her disability and in retaliation for her workers' compensation claim.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY (ADA)

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates as if realleged Paragraphs 1-17.
- 19. The Defendant engaged in unlawful employment practices in violation of Sections 102(a) and 103(b)(5) of Title I of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§12112(a) and (b)(5).
- 20. Persons with a physical impairment or who are perceived to have such an impairment are persons with a disability within the meaning of Sections 3 and 102(a) of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12102(2) and 12112(a).
- 21. The Plaintiff was an employee of the Defendant.
- 22. Plaintiff has impairments to her body that substantially limit one or more major life activity.
- 23. The Plaintiff informed Defendant of her disabilities and began receiving disparate treatment on the basis of her disabilities.
- 24. On the bases of her disabilities or perceived disabilities, Plaintiff was subjected to different terms and conditions in her employment when compared to her nondisabled coworkers, including job assignments and termination.
- 25. The Defendant failed to provide reasonable accommodations to Plaintiff of any kind or engage in any interactive process to determine reasonable accommodations.

- 26. Defendant terminated Plaintiff's employment on the bases of her qualifying impairments or perceived impairments.
- 27. The effect of the practices complained above has been to deprive the Plaintiff of equal employment opportunities, because of Plaintiff's disabilities and/or the perception of her disabilities.
- 28. The unlawful employment practices complained of were and are intentional.
- 29. The Defendant at all relevant times has acted with malice or reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of the Plaintiff, in violation of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff pray for judgment against Defendant for:

- a. Back pay and lost benefits; front pay;
- b. Compensatory damages for mental anguish, pain and suffering and other non-pecuniary losses;
- Punitive damages for the intentional and knowing acts of discrimination committed by the Defendant's management and executives;
- d. Equitable relief
- e. Such other relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

## SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION RETALIATORY DISCHARGE IN VIOLATION OF OKLA. STAT. TIT. 85, § 341

- 30. Plaintiff incorporates as if realleged Paragraphs 1-29.
- 31. While employed with the Defendant, Plaintiff sustained work-related injuries, arising out of and in the scope of her employment. After the plaintiff reported the injuries, Defendant began treating Plaintiff differently with respect to the terms and conditions of her employment and eventually terminated Plaintiff's employment.
- 32. Plaintiff was discharged in retaliation for filing a workers' compensation claim.

- 33. These acts of retaliatory discharge violate the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Act, OKLA. STAT. tit. 85, § 341.
- 34. As a result of these retaliatory discharges, Plaintiff has suffered considerable damages including, but limited to, loss of medical benefits, medical expense, lost wages and other actual damages in excess of \$75,000.00.

Respectfully submitted, SMOLEN, SMOLEN & ROYTMAN, PLLC

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Smolen | Smolen | Roytman≇ ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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